

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
SHERMAN DIVISION**

JOSEPH MICHAEL PHILLIPS

Plaintiff,

v.

COLLIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
DISTRICT ET AL

Defendant.

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CIVIL ACTION NO. 4:22-CV-00184

**ORDER REGARDING SCHEDULED MEDIATION**

A mediation in the above captioned case is scheduled before United States Magistrate Judge Christine A. Nowak on ***Thursday, May 25, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.*** The mediation will be held in the U.S. Courthouse Annex, 200 North Travis Street, Mezzanine Level, Sherman, Texas and shall be attended by an authorized representative of each party, together with trial counsel for each party, if applicable. Failure to produce the appropriate persons at the mediation may result in an award of costs and attorney fees incurred by the other parties in connection with the mediation and/or other sanctions against the noncomplying party and/or counsel.

No later than **5:00 p.m. on May 16, 2023**, each of the Parties shall submit a confidential mediation statement to the magistrate judge. The mediation statement shall not become part of the file of the case but shall be for the exclusive use of the magistrate judge in preparing for and conducting the mediation. The mediation statement shall be no longer than seven (7) pages (excluding attachments).

The mediation statement should contain a specific recitation of any relevant facts, as well as a discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of the parties' respective positions. The parties are directed to be candid in their statements. Legal arguments should not be included unless they

are critical to the evaluation or settlement of the case. In addition, the parties are requested to state their position on settlement, including a present settlement proposal, and a report on the history of all settlement efforts to date. A copy of all offers and demands made to date in this matter should be attached to the mediation statement. Copies of any agreements, business records, photographs or other documents or exhibits may also be attached to the mediation statement if critical to the negotiations.

No later than **May 16, 2023**, Plaintiff's counsel shall submit a written settlement demand to Defendant (and/or its counsel) with a brief explanation of why such a settlement is appropriate. No later than **May 19, 2023**, Defendant shall respond to such offer and submit a written offer to Plaintiff's counsel with a brief explanation of why such a settlement is appropriate. These steps will enable the mediation to progress more expeditiously. As set forth above, copies of all offers and demands in this matter should be provided to the magistrate judge. Nothing precludes the Parties from exchanging additional demands/offers in advance of these dates.

The statements, settlement demand, and offer should not be filed with the Clerk of Court but should be mailed or emailed to the chambers of the magistrate judge. Copies of the mediation statements should not be provided to the other parties in the case. Neither the mediation statements nor the settlement demand and offer will become part of the case docket. The statements may be emailed to: [nowak\\_mediations@txed.uscourts.gov](mailto:nowak_mediations@txed.uscourts.gov).

A premediation telephone conference is scheduled for **May 23, 2023, at 2:30 p.m.**

Counsel shall call into the conference by dialing 1-877-336-1839 and entering an access code of 5754049#. Participants are directed to call this number no later than 2:25 p.m.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**SIGNED this 21st day of April, 2023.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C.A. Nowak', is positioned above a horizontal line.

Christine A. Nowak  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE